5/24/88 S6430-2

OKLAHOMA LABOR MARKET

MARCH 1988

The Oklahoma Labor Market is published monthly by the Research Department of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission

BOB FUNSTON,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Oklahoma Labor Market provides information from household and industry surveys. Employment, unemployment, insured claimant characteristics, hours and earnings data are compiled and analyzed.

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OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION
OKLAHOMA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE
WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL OFFICE BUILDING
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105

AGRICULTURE EQUIPMENT SERVICES

DURABLE GOODS PETROLEUM TRUCKING OIL REFINING

CONSTRUCTION PUBLISHING MANUFACTURING INSURANCE

GOVERNMENT EDUCATION REAL ESTATE

UTILITIES FINANCE TRADE

This periodical is issued and printed by the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission as authorized under the Oklahoma Employment Security Act. One thousand six hundred copies are printed at a total cost of $ 975.40 to be paid out of Federal funds granted by the U.S. Department of Labor. Copies are distributed to subscribers and other interested parties.

JOBLESSNESS DECLINES IN MARCH

Total employment rose to 1,420,800 in March, up 3,300 from the revised February figure, while 3,400 fewer persons were unemployed. Nevertheless, the employment level, based on the household survey, remains 20,300 below the March 1987 total. On the other hand, the jobless total dropped to a level 33,100 below the year-earlier period.

These changes in labor force components resulted in a March unemployment rate of 6.7 percent, down slightly from February's 6.9 percent, but significantly lower than the March 1987 rate of 8.6 percent.

Agriculture dropped 1,100 between February and March due to seasonality, but stood slightly ahead of the level posted a year ago. Conversely, the domestic service, self-employed, and unpaid family worker component was up slightly over the month but down on the yearly comparison basis.

MONTHLY PAYROLLS RISE, DOWN YEARLY

Nonfarm wage and salary employment, based on the place-of-work survey, increased in Oklahoma from February to March, but continued to lag behind the same month of 1987. The 5,300 job increase estimated for March was primarily seasonal, although slightly smaller than normal for this time of year.

Seven of the eight major industry divisions recorded greater over-the-month employment. Government posted the largest gain, adding 2,300 jobs between the most recent estimation periods. Nearly 74 percent of this increase came in the local government sector. Wholesale and retail trade also picked up seasonally with 1,200 additional jobs. Construction was also a winner, up 900 positions as road and bridge construction continued to exhibit strength

Four other industries in nonmanufacturing registered smaller monthly gains.

Manufacturing, off 600, was the only industry to lose employment. The majority of the drop was among companies producing nondurable goods.

Compared to March 1987, nonfarm wage and salary employment fell by over 8,500. Of this net decline, two industry divisions (trade and finance-insurance-real estate) had overall combined job losses totaling 7,500.

To a lesser extent, the soft economy also pulled down transportation-public utilities, construction, and mining.

On a more positive note, three major industry divisions increased employment over the year. Services moved up 1,700, government improved by 700, and manufacturing rose by 200.

MANUFACTURING WAGES DROP SLIGHTLY

Average weekly earnings of the 110,100 manufacturing production workers in Oklahoma earned $414.91 per week in March compared to $417.59 for the comparable week in February. This small loss resulted from the combination of a 6 cent rise in the average hourly rate being offset by a one-half hour drop in the number of hours worked.

Both durable and nondurable goods components edged lower in the latest month. In the durable goods sector, the largest drop in weekly earnings occurred in instruments and related products mainly as a result of a much shorter workweek. Conversely, fabricated structural workers saw their earnings rise due to a 30 cent increase in the hourly wage rate. Only minor changes took place in the other durable components. In the nondurable goods sector, petroleum refining workers took the biggest hit; down $50 from last month's weekly average.

Among the nonmanufacturing industries in the hours and earnings survey, construction benefited from improved weather conditions and this was reflected in the $11.00 jump in average weekly pay. Communication and electrical workers dropped $22.00 as their workweek shrunk 2 hours.

Year-ago comparisons showed manufacturing up slightly from the March 1987 earnings due to a 28 cent rise in hourly pay. While both durable and nondurable workers are working shorter hours this year, durables pay rose because wage rates were 50 cents per hour higher than a year ago. At the same time nondurable wage rates fell 12 cents per hour. Four of the five nonmanufacturing industries fell from March of 1987, with communication and electrical down by almost 3 percent. Conversely, wholesale trade increased weekly earnings as average hourly wage rate rose over 30 cents.

JOBLESSNESS DOWN MONTHLY

March jobless rates decreased in 46 counties, rose in 26, and were unchanged in the other 5 counties. Also, jobless rates were lower in 3 of the 4 Metropolitan Statistical Areas. Alfalfa and Grant had the lowest county jobless rate at 3.1 percent, while Hughes was high at 15.9 percent. Nine counties currently have jobless rates exceeding 10.0 percent.

Last year at this time, Oklahoma had 31 counties with double-digit jobless rates.

Jobless rates were much lower in 3 of the 4 MSA's. The jobless rate edged up to 5.7 percent in the Lawton MSA, up from 5.2 percent a year ago, however. Overall, 69 counties have lower unemployment rates, 7 are higher, and 1 is unchanged compared to March 1987.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
ALL URBAN CONSUMERS - 116.5

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (UNADJUSTED)	
UNITED STATES	5.9%
OKLAHOMA	6.7%
OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	5.5%
TULSA MSA	7.5%
LAWTON MSA	5.7%
ENID MSA	5.7%

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS IN MANUFACTURING (UNADJUSTED)	
UNITED STATES	40.9
OKLAHOMA	40.4
OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	40.0
TULSA MSA	41.1

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS
OKLAHOMA MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	PRODUCTION WORKERS	WEEKLY EARNINGS			WEEKLY HOURS			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	MAR 1988p	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	110.1	414.91	417.59	411.59	40.4	40.9	41.2	10.27	10.21	9.99
Durable Goods	70.5	445.94	447.31	435.97	40.8	41.0	41.8	10.93	10.91	10.43
Stone,Clay & Glass	7.9	456.45	456.65	456.67	42.5	42.4	42.6	10.74	10.77	10.72
Primary Metal Ind.	3.3	440.32	444.57	439.56	43.0	43.5	44.4	10.24	10.22	9.90
Fab.Metal Products	10.6	361.98	361.01	369.65	40.4	40.7	40.8	8.96	8.87	9.06
Fab.Struct.Metals	4.4	365.66	350.64	374.48	41.6	41.3	42.7	8.79	8.49	8.77
Mach.Except Elect.	21.1	447.31	451.19	423.13	41.0	41.7	44.4	10.91	10.82	9.53
Oil Field Machinery	3.6	392.22	389.06	371.16	39.9	39.7	36.0	9.83	9.80	10.31
Elec.& Elec. Equip.	5.9	440.75	447.12	438.87	41.0	41.4	40.3	10.75	10.80	10.89
Transport. Equip.	15.4	537.21	536.93	511.38	38.9	38.6	38.8	13.81	13.91	13.18
Instr./Related Prod	1.8	502.06	516.15	467.81	45.6	46.5	44.3	11.01	11.10	10.56
Non-Durable Goods	39.6	357.48	364.27	368.63	39.5	40.7	40.2	9.05	8.95	9.17
Food & Kindred Prod	8.4	325.56	331.47	316.31	40.9	41.8	40.5	7.96	7.93	7.81
Apparel & Other Text.	7.7	186.68	199.31	185.93	35.9	38.7	36.6	5.20	5.15	5.08
Paper & Allied Prod.	2.7	414.24	421.88	398.95	41.8	42.4	39.5	9.91	9.95	10.10
Printing & Publish.	5.4	405.49	384.47	380.09	41.0	39.8	39.8	9.89	9.66	9.55
Newspapers & Period.	1.7	360.05	352.67	388.65	38.1	37.8	39.1	9.45	9.33	9.94
Petroleum Refining	3.8	500.77	550.57	518.73	39.4	41.9	41.3	12.71	13.14	12.56
Non-Manufacturing										
Oil & Gas Extract.	19.4	480.80	482.37	487.19	41.7	41.8	43.0	11.53	11.54	11.33
Construction	24.4	419.34	408.70	431.93	38.9	36.2	38.6	10.78	11.29	11.19
Public Utilities	21.8	495.49	517.49	508.41	39.2	41.3	41.2	12.64	12.53	12.34
Wholesale Trade	45.5	375.19	385.14	360.96	38.6	39.1	38.4	9.72	9.85	9.40
*Retail Trade	116.6	187.17	185.70	190.95	29.9	30.0	30.7	6.26	6.19	6.22

**Excludes eating and drinking establishments.*

OKLAHOMA LABOR FORCE
SUMMARY TABLE

(*By Place of Residence)

ITEM	NUMBER (In Thousands) MAR 1988p	FEB 1988	MAR 1987	PERCENT CHANGE FEB 88 MAR 88	ABSOLUTE CHANGE FEB 88 MAR 88	MAR 87 MAR 88
Total Civilian Labor Force	1,523.2	1,523.3	1,576.6	0.0	-0.1	-53.4
Unemployment	102.4	105.8	135.5	-3.2	-3.4	-33.1
Unemployment Rate	6.7	6.9	8.6	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total Employment	1,420.8	1,417.5	1,441.1	0.2	3.3	-20.3
Domestic Service-Self-Employed-Unpaid Family Workers	132.2	131.5	134.3	0.5	0.7	-2.1
Idled by Labor Disputes	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3

*Labor force data refers to place of residence, as required by the U. S Department of Labor. As a result, these estimates remove the effect of multiple jobholders and nonresident commuters included in wage and salary employment on a place-of-work basis. Workers idled by labor disputes are counted in total employment.

p=preliminary
r=revised

NON-AGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

(By place of Work)

INDUSTRY	NUMBER (In Thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE	ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r	FEB 88 MAR 88	FEB 88 MAR 88	MAR 87 MAR 88
Total Wage & Salary Workers	1,093.8	1,088.5	1,102.3	0.5	5.3	-8.5
Manufacturing	154.2	154.8	154.0	-0.4	-0.6	0.2
Durable Goods	95.6	95.7	95.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.2
Lumber & Wood Prod.	2.8	2.7	2.6	3.7	0.1	0.2
Stone,Clay & Glass Prod.	9.6	9.8	10.5	-2.0	-0.2	-0.9
Primary Metal Industries	4.2	4.2	3.9	0.0	0.0	0.3
Fabricated Metal Prod.	14.3	14.6	13.7	-2.1	-0.3	0.6
Fab.Struct.Metal Prod.	6.5	6.6	6.3	-1.5	-0.1	0.2
Machinery Exc.Electrical	29.9	29.6	29.1	1.0	0.3	0.8
Constr. & Related Mach.	9.5	9.4	9.3	1.1	0.1	0.2
Oil Field Machinery	6.0	6.0	5.4	0.0	0.0	0.6
Gen.Industrial Mach.	4.8	4.7	4.4	2.1	0.1	0.4
Elect.& Electronic Equip.	8.8	8.9	9.1	-1.1	-0.1	-0.3
Transportation Equip.	19.2	19.1	20.0	0.5	0.1	-0.8
Motor Vehicle & Equip.	10.8	10.8	11.3	0.0	0.0	-0.5
Aircraft & Parts	7.6	7.6	8.0	0.0	0.0	-0.4
Instruments & Rel.Prod.	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.1
Non-Durable Goods	58.6	59.1	58.6	-0.8	-0.5	0.0
Food & Kindred Prod.	13.9	14.0	13.6	-0.7	-0.1	0.3
Apparel & Textile Prod.	8.7	9.0	8.3	-3.3	-0.3	0.4
Paper & Allied Prod.	3.4	3.5	3.4	-2.9	-0.1	0.0
Printing & Publishing	10.6	10.8	11.1	-1.9	-0.2	-0.5
Newspapers & Period.	5.4	5.5	5.9	-1.8	-0.1	-0.5
Petroleum & Coal Prod.	7.1	7.1	7.3	0.0	0.0	-0.2
Petroleum Refining	6.5	6.5	6.6	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Rubber/Misc.Plast.Prod.	10.8	10.6	10.6	1.9	0.2	0.2
Tires & Inner Tubes	5.9	5.8	5.7	1.7	0.1	0.2
Non-Manufacturing	939.6	933.7	948.3	0.6	5.9	-8.7
Mining	44.2	43.6	45.0	1.4	0.6	-0.8
Oil & Gas Extraction	41.5	40.9	42.4	1.5	0.6	-0.9
Construction	31.4	30.5	32.6	3.0	0.9	-1.2
HV Const.Contractors	7.2	6.8	7.6	5.9	0.4	-0.4
Transp.& Pub. Utilities	61.4	61.1	63.0	0.5	0.3	-1.6
Transportation	33.1	33.0	33.2	0.3	0.1	-0.1
Railroad Transportation	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Trucking & Warehousing	15.8	15.9	16.0	-0.6	-0.1	-0.2
Pipe Lines,exc.Nat.Gas	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.1
Comm.&Elec/Gas/San Service	28.3	28.1	29.8	0.7	0.2	-1.5
Wholesale & Retail Trade	261.0	259.8	266.0	0.5	1.2	-5.0
Wholesale Trade	58.7	58.5	58.5	0.3	0.2	0.2
Retail Trade	202.3	201.3	207.5	0.5	1.0	-5.2
Gen.Merchandise Stores	27.6	28.0	27.6	-1.4	-0.4	0.0
Department Stores	11.6	11.9	11.9	-2.5	-0.3	-0.3
Food Stores	35.9	35.8	36.9	0.3	0.1	-1.0
Auto.Dlrs/Ser.Station	24.8	24.5	24.8	1.2	0.3	0.0
Apparel & Acces.Stores	12.4	12.3	13.1	0.8	0.1	-0.7
Fin,Insur.& Real Estate	57.1	57.0	59.6	0.2	0.1	-2.5
Banking	18.3	18.4	19.6	-0.5	-0.1	-1.3
Credit Agenc.OT Banks	9.4	9.4	9.8	0.0	0.0	-0.4
Insurance Carriers	7.9	7.9	8.8	0.0	0.0	-0.9
Services	231.3	230.8	229.6	0.2	0.5	1.7
Hotels & Lodging Places	11.5	11.3	11.3	1.8	0.2	0.2
Personal Services	12.5	13.0	12.5	-3.8	-0.5	0.0
Motion Pictures	1.3	1.3	1.5	0.0	0.0	-0.2
Health Services	75.0	75.1	72.8	-0.1	-0.1	2.2
Hospitals	29.7	29.8	28.3	-0.3	-0.1	1.4
Educational Services	12.7	13.0	13.1	-2.3	-0.3	-0.4
Government, Total	253.2	250.9	252.5	0.9	2.3	0.7
Federal Government	50.4	50.4	52.8	0.0	0.0	-2.4
State and Local Government	202.8	200.5	199.7	1.1	2.3	3.1
*State Government	71.9	71.3	70.1	0.8	0.6	1.8
Local Government	130.9	129.2	129.6	1.3	1.7	1.3

p=preliminary
r=revised

* Employment levels for State Government as measured by full-time (FTE) are as follows; MARCH, 1988 = 57,563. A FTE is based on a 40-hour work week and an average 173-hour work month. The FTE count is determined by dividing total person-hours worked per month by 173.

MARCH 1988

OKLAHOMA LABOR FORCE DATA

METROPOLITAN AREAS AND COUNTIES

AREA	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	LABOR FORCE	MAR 88	FEB 88	MAR 87
U. S.	112,867,000	7,090,000	119,957,000	5.9	6.2	6.9
OKLAHOMA	1,420,400	102,600	1,523,000	6.7	6.9	8.6
COUNTIES						
1 ADAIR	7,570	550	8,120	6.8	6.4	8.9
2 ALFALFA	3,080	100	3,180	3.1	4.2	4.6
3 ATOKA	7,790	600	8,390	7.2	7.8	9.2
4 BEAVER	2,760	140	2,900	4.8	5.7	4.1
5 BECKHAM	7,000	650	7,650	8.5	8.7	14.0
6 BLAINE	5,750	340	6,090	5.6	6.2	7.6
7 BRYAN	13,720	760	14,480	5.2	5.5	7.5
8 CADDO	11,050	1,250	12,300	10.2	10.4	11.0
9 CANADIAN	33,625	2,050	35,675	5.7	6.0	7.5
10 CARTER	18,875	1,525	20,400	7.5	7.2	10.6
11 CHEROKEE	15,010	1,270	16,280	7.8	7.8	10.2
12 CHOCTAW	4,720	660	5,380	12.3	12.8	17.1
13 CIMARRON	1,400	80	1,480	5.4	4.6	5.0
14 CLEVELAND	80,025	4,050	84,075	4.8	5.2	6.4
15 COAL	2,420	380	2,800	13.6	13.2	14.9
16 COMANCHE	47,100	2,850	49,950	5.7	5.4	5.2
17 COTTON	2,930	180	3,110	5.8	5.0	4.3
18 CRAIG	6,010	440	6,450	6.8	7.0	10.6
19 CREEK	25,950	2,500	28,450	8.8	9.0	11.5
20 CUSTER	12,930	740	13,670	5.4	5.0	6.3
21 DELAWARE	10,990	900	11,890	7.6	7.8	10.7
22 DEWEY	2,150	140	2,290	6.1	5.7	9.3
23 ELLIS	3,060	120	3,180	3.8	3.1	5.0
24 GARFIELD	28,100	1,700	29,800	5.7	6.1	8.5
25 GARVIN	11,670	790	12,460	6.3	6.7	10.1
26 GRADY	16,450	1,430	17,880	8.0	8.6	10.8
27 GRANT	2,810	90	2,900	3.1	2.8	5.4
28 GREER	2,730	130	2,860	4.5	5.1	4.6
29 HARMON	1,570	130	1,700	7.6	7.0	6.8
30 HARPER	2,140	100	2,240	4.5	4.4	5.0
31 HASKELL	3,870	590	4,460	13.2	12.7	15.2
32 HUGHES	4,450	840	5,290	15.9	17.4	17.1
33 JACKSON	10,520	660	11,180	5.9	6.1	6.7
34 JEFFERSON	3,470	250	3,720	6.7	7.3	10.5
35 JOHNSTON	3,750	240	3,990	6.0	5.6	7.7
36 KAY	24,425	1,450	25,875	5.6	5.7	7.7
37 KINGFISHER	6,320	350	6,670	5.2	5.2	8.0
38 KIOWA	4,790	240	5,030	4.8	4.9	6.1
39 LATIMER	4,260	430	4,690	9.2	8.1	11.8
40 LEFLORE	18,200	1,470	19,670	7.5	7.2	8.4
41 LINCOLN	11,010	1,200	12,210	9.8	9.4	11.8
42 LOGAN	13,260	770	14,030	5.5	4.6	5.7
43 LOVE	3,920	210	4,130	5.1	5.1	7.2
44 McCLAIN	10,600	620	11,220	5.5	5.7	7.3
45 McCURTAIN	13,770	1,160	14,930	7.8	8.7	10.9

	COUNTIES	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	LABOR FORCE	MAR 88	FEB 88	MAR 87
46	McINTOSH	6,330	430	6,760	6.4	6.0	7.5
47	MAJOR	3,220	250	3,470	7.2	7.6	9.5
48	MARSHALL	4,210	280	4,490	6.2	6.3	8.7
49	MAYES	13,050	1,330	14,380	9.2	10.1	12.4
50	MURRAY	5,340	530	5,870	9.0	8.5	12.0
51	MUSKOGEE	28,975	2,950	31,925	9.2	9.6	9.2
52	NOBLE	4,650	270	4,920	5.5	5.9	7.8
53	NOWATA	3,940	570	4,510	12.6	9.4	12.1
54	OKFUSKEE	5,730	530	6,260	8.5	8.4	9.6
55	OKLAHOMA	308,100	18,225	326,325	5.6	5.8	6.9
56	OKMULGEE	13,600	1,650	15,250	10.8	11.1	11.2
57	OSAGE	15,750	1,150	16,900	6.8	6.8	7.4
58	OTTAWA	10,950	1,100	12,050	9.1	9.9	19.0
59	PAWNEE	7,170	760	7,930	9.6	10.1	11.5
60	PAYNE	30,300	1,500	31,800	4.7	4.4	5.6
61	PITTSBURG	16,025	2,125	18,150	11.7	11.5	12.0
62	PONTOTOC	16,410	1,130	17,540	6.4	6.7	7.8
63	POTTAWATOMIE	25,200	1,850	27,050	6.8	6.9	8.7
64	PUSHMATAHA	4,470	310	4,780	6.5	7.2	8.9
65	ROGER MILLS	1,840	150	1,990	7.5	6.4	12.9
66	ROGERS	22,090	1,900	23,990	7.9	8.5	11.9
67	SEMINOLE	9,160	1,130	10,290	11.0	11.0	15.1
68	SEQUOYAH	16,570	1,030	17,600	5.9	7.3	7.1
69	STEPHENS	15,920	1,300	17,220	7.5	8.0	15.2
70	TEXAS	7,900	400	8,300	4.8	5.3	5.9
71	TILLMAN	4,370	290	4,660	6.2	6.7	10.2
72	TULSA	231,175	18,275	249,450	7.3	7.4	9.2
73	WAGONER	18,890	1,570	20,460	7.7	7.9	9.6
74	WASHINGTON	22,880	1,210	24,090	5.0	5.6	6.8
75	WASHITA	5,120	420	5,540	7.6	7.3	10.3
76	WOODS	4,950	240	5,190	4.6	3.1	3.7
77	WOODWARD	8,180	650	8,830	7.4	7.7	11.9
	OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	470,800	27,600	498,400	5.5	5.7	7.0
	TULSA MSA	313,800	25,400	339,200	7.5	7.6	9.5

SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS

A	-NORTHWEST	32,500	1,900	34,400	5.5
B	-SOUTHWEST	46,500	3,100	49,600	6.3
C	-NORTH CENTRAL	78,400	4,500	82,900	5.4
D	-SOUTH CENTRAL	111,900	8,200	120,100	6.8
E	-CENTRAL	366,200	21,400	387,600	5.5
F	-TULSA	272,900	21,900	294,800	7.4
G	-EAST CENTRAL	93,000	7,800	100,800	7.7
H	-SOUTHERN	88,100	6,400	94,500	6.8
I	-NORTHEAST	89,900	7,400	97,300	7.6
J	-EASTERN	106,900	9,500	116,400	8.2
K	-SOUTHEAST	65,300	6,700	72,000	9.3
L	-CLEVELAND	68,800	3,700	72,500	5.1

OKLAHOMA CITY
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	Number In Thousands			Absolute Change From	
	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r	FEB 88 MAR 88	MAR 87 MAR 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	396.8	395.7	399.3	1.1	-2.5
MANUFACTURING	46.9	46.7	46.7	0.2	0.2
DURABLE GOODS	32.2	32.1	32.2	0.1	0.0
Primary & Fabricated Metals	4.3	4.3	4.2	0.0	0.1
Fab.Struc.Metal Products	1.8	1.8	1.6	0.0	0.2
Machinery	13.5	13.5	13.8	0.0	-0.3
Mach. Except Electric	10.6	10.6	10.9	0.0	-0.3
Electric & Electronic Equip.	2.9	2.9	2.9	0.0	0.0
Transportation Equipment	10.1	10.0	9.8	0.1	0.3
NON-DURABLE GOODS	14.7	14.6	14.5	0.1	0.2
Food and Kindred Products	5.1	5.0	4.9	0.1	0.2
Printing & Publishing	4.2	4.2	4.3	0.0	-0.1
MINING	11.1	10.9	11.4	0.2	-0.3
CONSTRUCTION	12.2	11.8	11.4	0.4	0.8
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	19.1	19.0	19.8	0.1	-0.7
Transportation	9.3	9.2	9.2	0.1	0.1
Comm. & Public Utilities	9.8	9.8	10.6	0.0	-0.8
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	98.2	97.8	99.4	0.4	-1.2
Wholesale Trade	21.9	21.8	22.2	0.1	-0.3
Retail Trade	76.3	76.0	77.2	0.3	-0.9
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	23.8	24.0	24.8	-0.2	-1.0
Banking	5.6	5.6	6.2	0.0	-0.6
Credit Agencies Other Than Bank	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Insurance Carriers	4.5	4.6	4.8	-0.1	-0.3
SERVICES	88.5	89.2	88.1	-0.7	0.4
Health Services	25.8	25.9	25.3	-0.1	0.5
Hospitals	11.6	11.7	11.2	-0.1	0.4
Educational Services	4.7	4.7	4.8	0.0	-0.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	97.0	96.3	97.7	0.7	-0.7
Total Federal Government	28.6	28.6	30.5	0.0	-1.9
Total State/Local Gover.	68.4	67.7	67.2	0.7	1.2
Total State Government	34.1	33.7	33.3	0.4	0.8
Total Local Government	34.3	34.0	33.9	0.3	0.4

p=preliminary
r=revised

OKLAHOMA CITY METROPOLITAN AREA

(Oklahoma, Canadian, Cleveland, Logan, McClain and Pottawatomie Counties)

The Oklahoma City Metropolitan Statistical Area added 2,400 new jobs to the employment total in March, according to the latest estimates. Still, the employment level is 1.1 percent less than the total employed last year at this time.

The number of unemployed declined another 900 from the February level and has now dropped 22.5 percent since March of 1987. This has been the main reason that the unemployment rate has steadily declined to the current 5.5 percent rate.

Continued softness in the Oklahoma City job market resulted in only a 1,100 rise in wage and salary totals since last month. This is compared to the 3,000-4,000 average gain that normally occurs in the February-March estimation period.

Six major industry classifications showed employment gains over the month. The winners, led by the 700 increase in government jobs, was sufficient to offset the 700 decline in services and the 200 drop in finance, insurance, and real estate.

Compared to last March; construction, services, and manufacturing had higher levels of wage and salary employment. The collective 1,400 gain by these three industrial divisions was not quite high enough to offset job losses in the other five industries, especially the 1,200 drop in trade, and the 1,000 job contraction sustained by finance, insurance, and real estate.

Manufacturing production workers, currently estimated to number 34,200, had weekly paychecks in March that averaged basically the same as February. However, rising hourly wage rates pushed earnings $11.00 higher over the year. Durable goods workers are earning almost $26.00 more that last March, while nondurables average pay has declined almost $29.00 over the same period.

OKLAHOMA CITY
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r	FEB 88 MAR 88	MAR 87 MAR 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	498,400	496,900	511,800	1,500	-13,400
Unemployment	27,600	28,500	35,600	-900	-8,000
Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.7	7.0	xxx	xxx
Employment	470,800	468,400	476,200	2,400	-5,400

OKLAHOMA CITY
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	WEEKLY EARNINGS			WEEKLY HOURS			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	460.00	462.67	449.15	40.0	40.8	40.5	11.50	11.34	11.09
Durable Goods	496.54	497.33	470.30	40.8	41.0	40.3	12.17	12.13	11.67
Prim. & Fab. Metals	400.47	399.91	402.48	44.3	45.6	43.7	9.04	8.77	9.21
Machinery	509.21	506.76	481.16	41.5	41.1	40.4	12.27	12.33	11.91
Nondurable Goods	363.66	372.89	392.37	38.0	40.4	41.0	9.57	9.23	9.57
Food & Kindred Products	315.47	319.60	324.28	41.4	42.5	41.1	7.62	7.52	7.89
Printing & Pub.	392.74	384.25	396.52	37.8	36.7	38.2	10.39	10.47	10.38

p=preliminary
r=revised

TULSA
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	Number In Thousands			Absolute Change From	
	MAR 1988	FEB 1988	MAR 1987	FEB 88 MAR 88	MAR 87 MAR 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	286.6	285.4	287.6	1.2	-1.0
MANUFACTURING	47.4	47.3	47.2	0.1	0.2
DURABLE GOODS	36.1	36.0	36.4	0.1	-0.3
Stone,Clay & Glass Products	3.6	3.6	3.8	0.0	-0.2
Primary & Fabricated Metals	10.2	10.2	9.4	0.0	0.8
Primary Metal Industries	1.8	1.8	1.5	0.0	0.3
Fabricated Metal Products	8.4	8.4	7.9	0.0	0.5
Fab. Struc.Metal Products	4.2	4.1	3.9	0.1	0.3
Machinery	12.7	12.5	12.7	0.2	0.0
Mach.Except Electric	9.5	9.3	9.5	0.2	0.0
Const.& Related Machinery	3.7	3.6	3.6	0.1	0.1
Electric & Electronic Equip.	3.2	3.2	3.2	0.0	0.0
Transportation Equipment	7.1	7.2	8.1	-0.1	-1.0
NON-DURABLE GOODS	11.3	11.3	10.8	0.0	0.5
Printing & Publishing	3.4	3.4	3.4	0.0	0.0
Petroleum & Coal Products	2.0	2.0	1.8	0.0	0.2
MINING	15.1	14.9	14.9	0.2	0.2
CONSTRUCTION	9.0	8.8	10.1	0.2	-1.1
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	23.6	23.6	23.1	0.0	0.5
Transportation	15.5	15.5	15.1	0.0	0.4
Comm.& Public Utilities	8.1	8.1	8.0	0.0	0.1
TRADE	69.1	68.6	69.1	0.5	0.0
Wholesale Trade	17.7	17.5	17.4	0.2	0.3
Retail Trade	51.4	51.1	51.7	0.3	-0.3
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	16.9	16.9	17.2	0.0	-0.3
Banking	4.2	4.2	4.6	0.0	-0.4
SERVICES	69.4	68.9	69.6	0.5	-0.2
Health Services	22.5	22.5	21.5	0.0	1.0
Hospitals	12.0	12.0	11.5	0.0	0.5
Educational Services	4.3	4.5	4.9	-0.2	-0.6
GOVERNMENT	36.1	36.4	36.4	-0.3	-0.3
Federal	4.0	4.0	4.5	0.0	-0.5
State	5.7	6.1	5.3	-0.4	0.4
Local	26.4	26.3	26.6	0.1	-0.2

p=preliminary
r=revised

TULSA METROPOLITAN AREA

(Tulsa, Creek, Osage, Rogers and Wagoner Counties)

The latest household survey indicates employment in the Tulsa Metropolitan Statistical Area totaled 313,800 in March or an increase of 500 over the revised February total. This latest estimate is down by 4,200 from the employment level of a year ago. Unemployment continued to move lower, dropping by 400 during March and shrank by 8,100 or 24 percent fewer than reported a year ago. The current unemployment rate stands at 7.5 percent, two full percentage points lower than that prevailing in March, 1987.

The March preliminary estimate of nonfarm wage and salary employment for the Tulsa Area was 286,600. This represented a 1,200 monthly increase, but was still 1,000 lower than last year. The trade and services industries were the leaders in March employment gains with 500 new employees each. The Mining and Construction industries both added 200 workers, while manufacturing expanded by 100 jobs. Government, with a seasonal drop of 300 jobs, was the only industry to record a month-to-month employment loss.

The 1,100 year-to-year decline in construction employment was a major factor in the 1,000 overall job loss for the Tulsa Metropolitan Statistical Area. Contributing to a lesser extent were losses of 300 jobs each by the government and the finance, insurance, and real estate industries, and a decline of 200 workers in Services. Annual employment gains were sustained by transportation-public utilities, which expanded by 500, and manufacturing and mining which increased 200 each.

Modest annual employment gains occurred in several manufacturing sectors but were offset by the 1,000 decline in the transportation equipment sector. Likewise, losses in educational services, recreational services, and membership organizations surpassed the 1,000 annual employment increase recorded by the health services sector.

The 29,600 manufacturing production workers in the Tulsa MSA earned an average of $443.88 weekly during March. This was $3 less weekly take home pay than for February. Weekly hours and hourly earnings averages moved down slightly in most durable goods jobs. The $13 decline in weekly earnings for nondurable goods workers resulted from the 1.1 hour shorter average work week for March.

An increase of $16 in weekly earnings was indicated for all manufacturing production workers over the year. This was the result of a .4 hour longer average work week and 29 cent higher average hourly earnings. Increased durable goods workers earnings stemmed from higher hourly pay, while a 2.1 hour longer work week was the significant factor in nondurable goods workers higher pay.

TULSA
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER MAR 1988p	NUMBER FEB 1988r	NUMBER MAR 1987r	ABSOLUTE CHANGE FEB 88 MAR 88	ABSOLUTE CHANGE MAR 87 MAR 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	339,200	339,100	351,500	100	-12,300
Unemployment	25,400	25,800	33,500	-400	-8,100
Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.6	9.5	XXX	XXX
Employment	313,800	313,300	318,000	500	-4,200

TULSA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	WEEKLY EARNINGS MAR 1988p	WEEKLY EARNINGS FEB 1988r	WEEKLY EARNINGS MAR 1987r	WEEKLY HOURS MAR 1988p	WEEKLY HOURS FEB 1988r	WEEKLY HOURS MAR 1987r	HOURLY EARNINGS MAR 1988p	HOURLY EARNINGS FEB 1988r	HOURLY EARNINGS MAR 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	443.88	446.87	427.76	41.1	41.3	40.7	10.80	10.82	10.51
Durable goods	460.20	460.62	445.11	41.2	41.2	41.1	11.17	11.18	10.83
Prim & Fab. Metals	403.32	400.89	398.16	42.1	41.5	42.0	9.58	9.66	9.48
Machinery	417.38	411.23	386.23	40.8	41.0	39.9	10.23	10.03	9.68
Non-Durable Goods	372.00	384.98	348.56	40.7	41.8	38.6	9.14	9.21	9.03
Printing & Pub	440.43	447.29	414.23	41.2	43.3	40.1	10.69	10.33	10.33

p=preliminary
r=revised

ENID METROPOLITAN AREA

(Garfield County)

The latest household survey for the Enid Metropolitan Area placed the March employment level at 28,100, an increase of 175 from the revised February estimate. Unemployment eased down another 100 to the 1,700 level. This combination of higher employment and fewer unemployed resulted in an unemployment rate of 5.7 percent for March, as compared to 6.1 percent in February and 8.5 percent a year ago. The most significant factor in the declining unemployment rate over the past year has been the 35 percent reduction in numbers of unemployed.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment in the Enid MSA shows a slight 100 worker decline from the revised February estimate of 21,900. The only month-to-month employment level change indicated was the 100 drop in state government jobs. An increase of only 100 was indicated in total payroll employment since last year. However, the service industry employment expanded by 500 employees during the year, but this gain was offset by losses of 100 employees each in mining, transportation-public utilities, wholesale trade, and state government.

Only modest seasonal growth is expected for the next 60 days as nonfarm wage and salary employment should hover near the present level.

ENID
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r	FEB 88 MAR 88	MAR 87 MAR 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	29,800	29,725	30,550	75	-750
Unemployment	1,700	1,800	2,600	-100	-900
Unemployment Rate	5.7	6.1	8.5	xxx	xxx
Employment	28,100	27,925	27,950	175	150

ENID
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	NUMBER IN THOUSANDS			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r	FEB 88 MAR 88	MAR 87 MAR 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	21.8	21.9	21.7	-0.1	0.1
MANUFACTURING	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
DURABLE GOODS	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0	-0.1
NON-DURABLE GOODS	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.0	0.1
MINING	1.0	1.0	1.1	0.0	-0.1
CONSTRUCTION	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.1	2.1	2.2	0.0	-0.1
TRADE	6.2	6.2	6.3	0.0	-0.1
Wholesale Trade	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	4.8	4.8	4.8	0.0	0.0
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
SERVICES	5.8	5.8	5.3	0.0	0.5
GOVERNMENT	3.5	3.6	3.6	-0.1	-0.1
Federal	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
State	0.8	0.9	0.9	-0.1	-0.1
Local	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0

p=preliminary
r=revised

LAWTON METROPOLITAN AREA

(Comanche County)

Total employment in the Lawton MSA rose by 450 during the Februray-March estimation period, up to a level of 47,100. Seasonal increases in March reduced the employment decline to 125 from the March 1987 estimate.

At the same time, the number of unemployed was also changing, up 200 for the month, and 275 higher than a year ago. As a percentage of the labor force, the jobless rate reached 5.7 percent, up slightly from 5.4 percent in February and one-half a point above March of last year.

While the household survey revealed an increase in total employment, the estimates showed no net change in wage and salary jobs. While services, government, and manufacturing were gaining 100 each, retail trade offset the gains by going down 300.

The majority of the over-the-year decline in wage and salary jobs was centered in trade and transportation-public utilities, which contracted 500 and 300 positions respectively.

LAWTON
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r	FEB 88 MAR 88	MAR 87 MAR 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	49,950	49,300	49,800	650	150
Unemployment	2,850	2,650	2,575	200	275
Unemployment Rate	5.7	5.4	5.2	xxx	xxx
Employment	47,100	46,650	47,225	450	-125

LAWTON
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	NUMBER IN THOUSANDS			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	MAR 1988p	FEB 1988r	MAR 1987r	FEB 88 FEB 88	MAR 87 FEB 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	33.3	33.3	34.0	0.0	-0.7
MANUFACTURING	3.4	3.3	3.4	0.1	0.0
DURABLE GOODS	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.0	-0.1
NON-DURABLE GOODS	3.0	2.9	2.9	0.1	0.1
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
CONSTRUCTION	1.1	1.1	1.2	0.0	-0.1
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	1.2	1.2	1.5	0.0	-0.3
TRADE	8.1	8.4	8.6	-0.3	-0.5
Wholesale Trade	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	7.1	7.4	7.6	-0.3	-0.5
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	1.5	1.5	1.6	0.0	-0.1
SERVICES	5.8	5.7	5.6	0.1	0.2
GOVERNMENTT	12.0	11.9	11.9	0.1	0.1
Federal	5.7	5.7	5.7	0.0	0.0
State	1.3	1.2	1.2	0.1	0.1
Local	5.0	5.0	5.0	0.0	0.0

p=preliminary
r=revised

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, Research Department, Room 310, Will Rogers Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. Phone (405) 557-7260.

U S DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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